

I wish to register my strong disapproval for review of, and possible weakening or repealing, of laws that prohibit media consolidation. The independence of numerous media outlets is the linchpin of our well informed society, which itself is critical to democracy. The miniscule cost savings (when divided among the ultimate payers - consumers) are so small as to be invisible to the average person and is therefore patently unimportant in any decision on this matter. However, as often is the case, the massive profits that a privileged few will make for this one time transition may be enough to induce government action through ethical, or other, means. Please do not let this happen.

Your duty is to the citizens, no other. The citizens of this country are busy leading their lives. Although careful, public examination of every government decision is the ideal, it is not always possible. Such is the case today. I challenge you to go out on street and ask informed consumers, such as those buying newspapers, whether they prefer media independence or consolidation. The answer will be overwhelming. The opinions of a privileged few should only be compared on EQUAL FOOTING to the opinions of the overwhelming majority of citizens. And as it should always be in democracy, the overwhelming majority should prevail over the privileged few.

I realize the words of a puny little person like me (i.e., the average American citizen, whose interests YOU are required to defend) often fall on deaf ears. Please prove me wrong and do the right thing for the country, and its future. Do not allow media consolidation.